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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/899,281 | 07/06/2001 | Toshiaki Tsuda | Q65287 | 3917 |
| 7590 | 06/28/2004 | | EXAMINER | |
| SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20037-3202 | | | GUHARAY, KARABI | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2879 | |

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| | 09/899,281 | TSUDA ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Karabi Guharay | Art Unit 2879 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on Amendment, filed on 2 February 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 06 July 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date .
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: ____ .

Amendment, filed on 02 February 2004 has been considered.

Claim 1 has been amended.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference character(s) mentioned in the description: #53a in specification page 11, line 1. Corrected drawing sheets are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claim 2 is objected to because of the following informalities: Since claim 2 is dependent on claim 1, "An insulating plug" should be changed to "The insulating plug". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1 & 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Motiduki et al. (US 5757110), in view of Steiner et al. (US 4595859).

Regarding claims 1 & 3, Motiduki et al. disclose a discharge lamp (Fig 1 & Fig 2) comprising an insulating plug (insulating base 30) comprising a body (31) with a front end portion (31a) and a rear end portion (no number is given), an arc tube (10), fixedly held at the front end portion and a lamp-side connector (C2) provided at the rear end portion wherein the lamp-side portion connector (C2) is arranged so that a power-supplying connector (C1) can be attached to and detached from the lamp-side connector (lines 58-62 of column 4), wherein the entirety of the body (31) is made of synthetic resin.

But Motiduki et al. fail to disclose that the synthetic resin is a glass-fiber-reinforced plastic.

However, Steiner et al. in the same field of insulating plug (socket 2) for a lamp (Fig 1) teach that the glass-fiber reinforced plastic material (polyamide with glass fiber) is suitable for the entire body of the socket (2) for its high temperature resistance property (lines 15-17 of column 2).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use glass-fiber-reinforced plastic material, as taught by Steiner et al. in the entire body of the insulating plug of Motiduki et al., since this is a high temperature resistance material suitable for insulating plug for a lamp.

Claims 2, and 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Motiduki et al. (US 5757110), in view of Steiner et al. (US 4595859) and further in view of Funami et al. (US 4965297).

Regarding claims 2 and 4, Motiduki and Steiner disclose all the limitations of claim 2, including glass-fiber-reinforced plastic includes 25% of glass fiber (see ' 859 patent, line 16 of column 2) except for polyphenylene sulfide resin.

However, Funami teaches a glass-fiber-reinforced resin material comprising polyphenylene sulfide resin and further teaches that this material is also excellent for heat resistance (lines 10-15 of column 1) and impact resistance (lines 24-25 of column 2).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to choose a glass-fiber reinforced plastic material using polyphenylene sulfide resin, as taught by Funami et al., in the combined structure of Motiduki & Steiner, since polyimide and PPS are equivalent engineering plastic material for their property of heat resistance.

Regarding claims 5, & 6, Funami et al. disclose that the glass-fiber-reinforced plastic includes from 40 wt% to 60 wt% of glass fiber contained in polyphenylene sulfide

resin (lines 1-3 of column 3). The same reason for combining art as in claims 2 & 4 applies.

Other Prior Art Cited

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure :

Otsuki et al. (US 6452782): disclose that examples of heat-resistant resins include polyimide resin, and polyphenylene sulfide resin.

Kasper et al. (US 5087500): teach that glass-fiber reinforced plastics, which are temperature-resistance, include polyimide resin, and polyphenylene sulfide resin.

Aramaki et al. (US 5590225): teach polyphenylene sulfide resin reinforced with glass fiber, provide an excellent heat resistance material used for holders.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karabi Guharay whose telephone number is (571) 272-2452. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar D. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Karabi Guharay
Karabi Guharay
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2879